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REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-14, 16, 32-36, and 49 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. A listing of pending claims are found at pages 3-6. Claim 6 has been cancelled, and claims 1, 7, 11, 32, and 49 have been amended. Additionally, the specification has been amended herein, and these amendments can be found at page 2.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-14, 16, 32-36, and 49 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-14, 16, 32-36, and 49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bahrs *et al.* (U.S. 6,292,933). It is respectfully submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Bahrs *et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every element of the subject claims.

For a prior art reference to anticipate, 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that “*each and every element* as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *In re Robertson*, 169 F.3d 743, 745, 49 USPQ2d 1949, 1950 (Fed. Cir. 1999) (quoting *Verdegaal Bros., Inc. v. Union Oil Co.*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)) (emphasis added).

The invention as claimed relates to a system and method for facilitating employment of a pluggable formatter in a serialization and deserialization process. (See pg. 2, ln. 24-25). In particular, independent claim 1 (and similarly amended independent claims 11, 32, and 49) recites a decision module that retrieves a first data structure *as a graph of objects for serialization thereof*. A graph of objects is a data structure that groups one or more objects together, for example, a hierarchical tree structure as illustrated in Figure 1. (See pg. 6, ln. 22—pg. 7, ln. 5). Bahrs *et al.* fails to mention a graph of objects.

Instead, Bahrs *et al.* specifies data as “graphical objects” (See col. 2, ln. 55, 58) such as “boot files, operating system images, and applications to clients” (See col. 12, ln.

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25-26) in “various forms, such as Extensible Markup Language (XML), String, Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), key/value, Remote Method Invocation (RMI), J/XFS, RS232, etc.” (See col. 17, ln. 31-34). Graphical objects are visual elements that can be displayed on a screen. In reference to Bahrs *et al.*’s PlacementListener (514), the Examiner contends that the decision module retrieves a graph of objects one object at a time for serialization. (See Office Action, pg. 3). Applicants’ representative respectfully disagrees. Bahrs *et al.*’s PlacementListener (514) does not involve a graph of objects. Rather, the PlacementListener (514) manages how a GUI element (a graphical object) represented by ViewController (502) is placed on a computer screen. Bahrs *et al.*’s method utilizes a display of graphical elements, not the data structure as a graph of objects as claimed. The invention as claimed *serializes* a graph of objects into streams of data of any given wire format, which is *deserialized* back into a graph of objects. (See pg. 3, ln. 1-3). Bahrs *et al.* does not teach or suggest such aspects of the claimed invention.

In view of at least the foregoing, it is readily apparent that Bahrs *et al.* does not anticipate or suggest applicants’ claimed invention as recited in claims 1, 11, 32, and 49 (and claims 2-5, 7-9; 12-14, 16; and 33-36 which respectively depend there from). Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

09/892,684MS174305.01/MSFTP256USCONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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